

## AMENDMENT

### In the Claims:

#### Please replace the presently pending claims with the following claims:

1. A method to introduce a nucleic acid molecule into a mammalian subject which method comprises  
transplanting into the dermis of said subject at least one hair follicle that has been modified ex vivo to contain said nucleic acid molecule.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein said hair follicle has been modified ex vivo in a histoculture.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein said histoculture has been treated with collagenase prior to modifying said hair follicle.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein said hair follicle is in anagen.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein said follicle has been modified to contain said nucleic acid molecule by transducing with said nucleic acid or by lipofection.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein said follicle has been modified to contain said nucleic acid molecule by treating with a viral vector.
7. The method of claim 6 wherein said viral vector comprises the supernatant of a viral packaging cell, and/or wherein said viral vector comprises a retroviral vector, and/or wherein said viral vector comprises an adenoviral vector.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein said mammal is a mouse or a human.

Please cancel claims 9 and 10.

11. (Amended) A method to introduce a nucleic acid molecule into a mammalian subject which method comprises transplanting into the corresponding tissue of said mammal a histocultured intact tissue that has been modified ex vivo to contain said nucleic acid molecule;

wherein said histoculture has been treated with collagenase prior to modifying said tissue with the nucleic acid.

Please cancel claim 12.

13. The method of claim 11 wherein said modifying with nucleic acid comprises treating said tissue with a liposomal composition, or wherein said modifying comprises transducing the cells of said tissue with said nucleic acid, or wherein said modifying comprises treating said tissue with a viral vector.

14. The method of claim 11 wherein said intact tissue is dermis, or wherein said tissue is lymph tissue.

a<sup>2</sup> 15. (Amended) A method of delivering a nucleic acid to a hair follicle which method comprises maintaining said hair follicle in histoculture and treating said histoculture with a nucleic acid;

wherein said treating with a nucleic acid is preceded by the step of treating said histoculture with collagenase.

Please cancel claim 16.

a<sup>3</sup> 17. (Amended) A method of delivering a nucleic acid to a an intact tissue which method comprises treating a histoculture of said intact tissue with said nucleic acid;

wherein said treating with a nucleic acid is preceded by the step of treating said histoculture with collagenase.

Please cancel claim 18.

a<sup>4</sup> 19. (Amended) The method of claim 17 wherein said tissue is skin or lymphoid.

Please cancel claims 20 and 21.